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**PAIN CLINIC OWNER SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IN
PRISON AS AN ORGANIZER AND LEADER OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG
TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY**

Tampa, Florida - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that District Judge James D. Whittemore today sentenced Troy Wubbena (age 44, of Tampa), a physician's assistant and co-owner of Neurology & Pain Center clinics located in Tampa, Lakeland, Sarasota, Orlando, Jacksonville, and St. Petersburg, to 10 years in federal prison for conspiring to traffic in Oxycodone. Wubbena had pleaded guilty on January 14, 2010.

According to court documents, Wubbena illegally distributed Oxycodone by obtaining blank prescription forms pre-signed by his supervising physician, Dr. Jeffery Friedlander. Wubbena filled out the prescriptions for Oxycodone in the names of purported patients (often without their knowledge or participation) and caused them to be filled at pharmacies throughout the Middle District of Florida. He then caused the Oxycodone obtained to be illegally sold and distributed on the streets.

Wubbena previously pleaded guilty in another case to conspiracy to prescribe Oxycodone illegally and conspiracy to defraud Medicare. Wubbena is scheduled to be sentenced in that case on October 1, 2010. His co-defendant in that case, Dr. Friedlander, also has pleaded guilty and is scheduled to be sentenced on October 15, 2010.

Both cases were investigated by the United States Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Inspector General, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Florida Office of the Attorney General Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. They were prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Kathy J.M. Peluso, Terry Zitek, and Josie Thomas.